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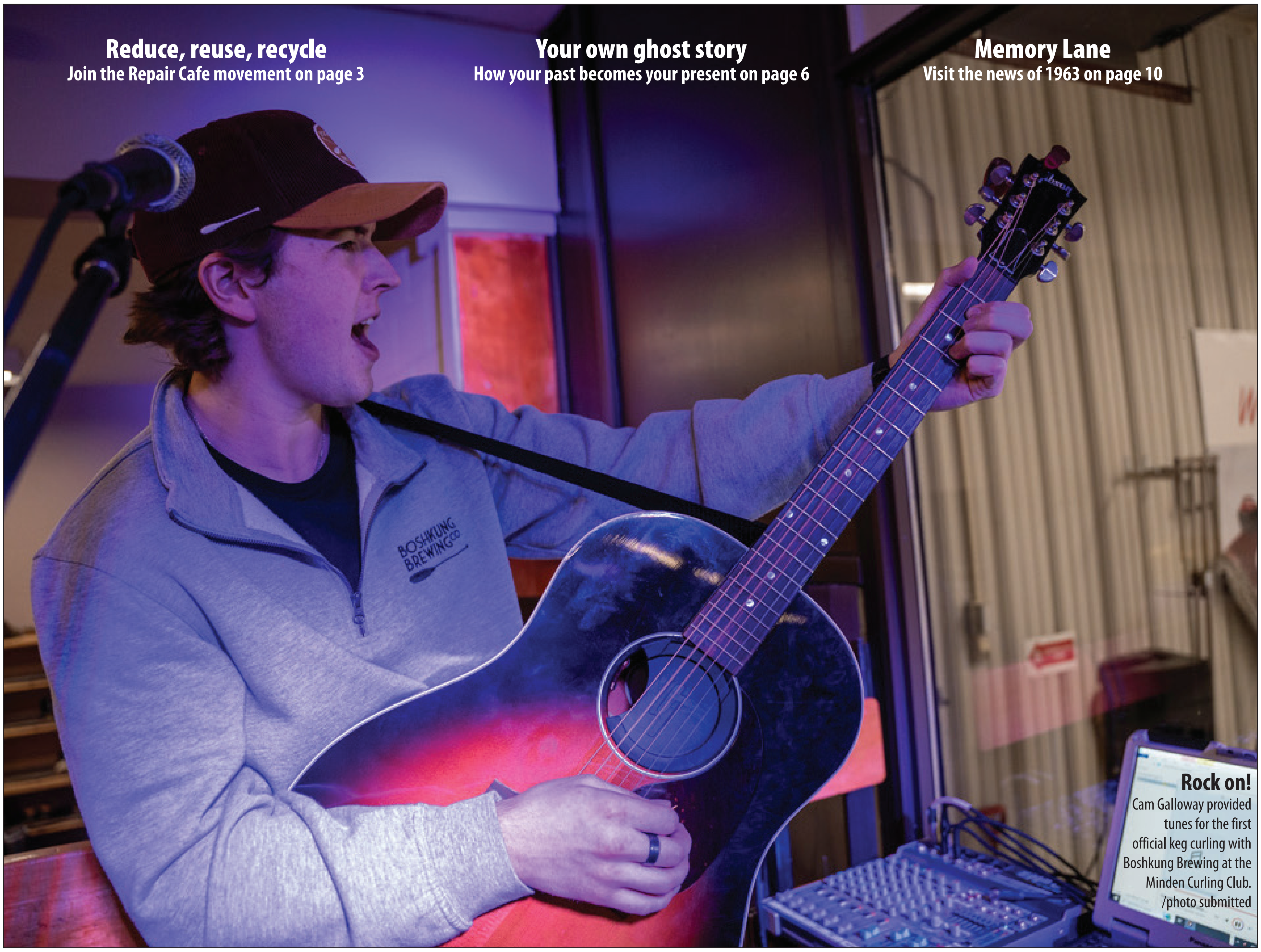
Reduce, reuse, recycle
Join the Repair Cafe movement on page 3

Your own ghost story
How your past becomes your present on page 6

Memory Lane
Visit the news of 1963 on page 10



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Crones

DEB REED

Wind in the Attic

RHYMES WITH bones. In folklore, crones are often bony, solitary and disagreeable older women. Hags. Witches. In fairy tales, they're caricatures who kidnap children, or channel prescience, stirring cauldrons and incanting metaphors.

I like witches and their cronies. Sinister and supernatural, they know more than I do. They trust 'signs' and intuition. They think and speak with earned assurance. They see through games, and know what's way more important. They understand me better than I do. They observe and contemplate and utter facts out loud, even if I 'can't handle the truth'.

Superficially, their bodies and noses might stoop, and they might point and cackle, but that's because crones are old. You might be nervous since you've always pictured them with unrefined fingernails, black clothing, brooms and hooded eyes, but these survivors are actual hardworking forces of nature. Fatigue hugs their bones after lifetimes of suffering wounds. And fools.

Lifetimes harden faces. Weathered hands are rites of passage. Grey hair crowns experience. It's crones who hold the powers of telling. Of foretelling. They've seen and overseen through decades. Imagine the consciousness of a sharp-minded centenarian! One pause from her, one frown, smile, nod, wink, finger gesture or extended silent gaze - well, those usually say more than dozens of noisy, show-off, space-filling words.

Some of my best friends are crones. Most have lovely 'old-fashioned' names. When this doddery 'Deborah' passes her looking glass lately, it's not for cosmetic validation. It's for bittersweet acknowledgement of new wrinkles, my own private trophies of application, achievement and healing. I recognize a bonafide grownup there, an insightful reflection, more transparent, complete and at peace with aging. No longer directed by youthful callousness. Athena, not Narcissus.

My favourite homeland goddesses might not perceive my admiration for them. Humility is attractive. Their actions speak. They believe in goodness, and have joined that cosmic phalanx of no-nonsense grandmother-types who'll instantly step up to help where needed, often before it's requested.

I love my circle of crones. Those tacit volunteers, city or rural, who pick up litter, coordinate food drives, campaign to fund heating and housing, sponsor refugees, rescue turtles, rehabilitate wildlife, re-home domestic and farm creatures. There are pensioners who read public service announcements or local literature on radio, who teach college students to measure lake health, who donate saleable paintings to help support a beloved gallery. One friend ordered tiny CANADA pins to give away at random. She also tends a free community garden, and pays regular visits (with books or baking) to shut-ins. A brave shy pal campaigns assertively on behalf of our precious environment. Another, nearing 80, refuses to reduce her long-distance solo snowmobiling. She loves it, and has been historically instrumental in sustaining trail safety. Yet another will soon see her neo-Shakespearean play about cottage-feuding families turn officially theatrical.

I'm richer for loving crones. They seem to see and say exactly what I'm hungry to learn. One differentiates screwdrivers, another, curries. One challenges democracy, another, deer-resistant perennials.

Crones and their bones. Let's dance!

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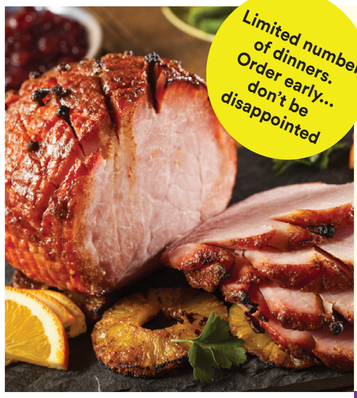

To advertise in this feature contact:
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Next issue of Food & Fun is May 8, booking deadline Wednesday, April 30.

Toss it? No way! SIRCH Repair Café starts April 6

IAN KINROSS

SIRCH Volunteer

The SIRCH Repair Café team is ready to roll for its season opener.

"Our talented volunteer fixers are on deck for our first event on Sunday, April 6," said Project Coordinator Dianne Woodcock. The Repair Café runs 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at SIRCH Bistro, 49 Maple Avenue, in Haliburton.

With its sustainability focus and fix-it savvy, the team has repaired well over 500 items up to last fall – from electronics and small appliances to clothing and jewelry, to ceramics, furniture, bikes and more, Dianne said.

"By repairing something instead of tossing it away, we are helping the community – and the environment," said Dianne. "It's also a great opportunity for our community residents to learn about fixing their own items, and to meet their neighbours and SIRCH volunteers."

For the 2025 season, the Repair Café events are scheduled for the first Sunday of each month from April to October. Two of those events will be held in Minden this year – in June and September. Stay tuned for Minden locations plus more information including some special events such as bicycle repair.

The SIRCH Repair Café accepts items including textiles, toys, small appliances, computers, bicycles, lawn/garden tools, jewelry, wooden furniture and ceramics.

"Please consider coming out this season to meet our amazing Repair Café volunteer team," said Dianne. "Bring along a broken item – and have a coffee and treat on us!"

Donations towards repaired items are voluntary and support the good works of SIRCH Community Services in Haliburton. For more information about SIRCH Community Services and its Repair Café, visit sirch.on.ca.

Toss it? No way!!

SIRCH Community Services will be bringing back their Repair Cafes to run over the spring and summer months. /FILE

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Look up and let the light shine through

These days, nearly everywhere we go and spend time – from the store, to the bus, to work and school, and even at the dinner table – we witness and are part of collective phone distraction. Often, we can miss the point of a simple walk outside, too busy with the super machine in our hand to look up and let the light shine through.

It's not that everyone is deliberately avoiding human interaction and connection. Research has shown that the content on our phones, iPads and other portable devices is designed to be addictive by nature. This is particularly a problem for youth, whose brains are still developing, putting them at risk of decreased attention span, anxiety and depression, lower academic achievement, and other negative outcomes.

It's not hopeless, though. There are tools we can use to lessen the impact of these devices. For example, Participaction (participaction.com) talks about the four Ms of screen use for youth and what caregivers need to know in the areas of minimizing, mitigation, mindfulness, and modeling.

Minimizing is avoiding usage of screens when they're not needed for a task or activity, like while outside, socializing, or during recreational activities.

Mitigating is having conversations with youth about the quality and duration of the screen time they are having and helping them process the content they're watching and what is appropriate.

Mindfulness is being aware of which screens, alerts and notifications are on and knowing when and why to turn things off.

Finally, there is modeling – possibly the hardest of all – the idea of modeling positive adult behaviour when it comes to smartphone and technology use. We need to be able to commit to regularly putting down and shutting down our own devices if we expect the young people in our lives to do the same.

But because of the addictive nature of modern technology, it is also not always realistic to expect youth to use their willpower when it comes to ubiquitous screen time. Free apps for parents are available that allow caregivers to restrict the total time amount per day that their family members are allowed on their phones and particular apps, and what time at night the device will automatically shut off.

Indeed, it is particularly important to ensure that electronic devices do not consistently interfere with sleep. Blue light suppressing the body's release of melatonin, participating in activities on a screen that impact mood, and the FOMO ('fear of missing out') that happens with kids when they get off their phones earlier than their peers do can all negatively impact sleep health and in turn, overall mental health.

It is also important to talk to youth about the amount of misinformation that is now being developed and targeted to their generation – and have converations with the children and teens in your life about how to identify high quality, reliable content and verify sources.

There are obvious benefits to today's technological landscape, but families must commit to work together to negate its harmful effects as well and find a balance that works best – one that still allows for enough in-person connection to others and to the natural light surrounding us.

Submitted by Point in Time Centre for Children, Youth, and Parents

Twinkle lights

TERESA JORDAN
Community Living Contemplations

THIS PAST Christmas a friend received a wonderful Christmas floral arrangement complete with a little ceramic insert of a Christmas village scene. She was over the moon about the arrangement and sent me a photo. One of her first messages was: "I think I will put some twinkle lights in it to highlight the village bit and make it more magical." This was a great idea, and I am also mad about twinkle lights making all things look more festive, so I heartily agreed.

A few days later, a second message about the holiday arrangement, it already had twinkle lights. My pal had discovered the on switch while watering the flowers, the village scene burst to twinkly lights from all around the feature. What she had wanted was already there; it just needed to be discovered. This story always makes us smile to remember it.

For lots of reasons. I love to think of how much joy the arrangement brought, I laugh to think that the feature already lit up and was discovered later. It's a great story. And it gets me thinking about how much we do this, we think about how to make things or food or homes or even people shinier, better, richer or in some other way improved.

We seem driven to always want something more or see that there is more potential. Are we checking this over for the on switch first? Lots of things might not look their best, if not in the right place. When we look at people around us, do we wonder how they could maybe improve, or what they could add to their training, their abilities, their lives? How often do we instead look at what makes their heart sing, what brings out the best, and what could turn their unique potential on high?

I think we look at situations and want immediately to make it better, fix it or improve it. While that is a great goal of making things better, let's think about first, taking the time to examine what is. Let's try to just take it in, just sit with the situation, just listen intently to people around, just patiently water what is before you and notice all that the person, place or situation has to offer just as it is. Perhaps, what we planned, longed for or decided would be better, is already there and was the whole time just waiting for us to take the time to look closer.

At Community Living, we are always looking at how we can do better, be better, do more with less and be more efficient. However, the heart of our work is with people, families and our Haliburton Community and there are thousands of twinkly light moments all over the place, we just need to remind ourselves to look for them all the time. One of our greatest accomplishments and constant goals is to remind a person or family that they have potential, can dream big dreams and that their gifts will be welcomed in the community. We are all richer when we make sure that everyone's twinkle switch is firmly in the on position.

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Writing on the Senior Side

1963 fancy free, 14 and Black Like Me

GAIL STELTER

County Life Contributor

Bring your hula hoop and get ready to swivel your hips, even the one replaced with titanium. Turn up the volume on your transistor radio and sing along with Skeeter Davis to *The End of the World*, or how about *She Loves You* by that incredible new pop group, The Beatles or even a long poetic folk song *Blowin in the Wind*, with Boby Dylan? We are going back to 1963. How old were you? I was in grade nine and then into grade ten. I was 14, fancy-free and then I read *Black Like Me.* If you are too young to remember being a teenager in the 60s, you may still enjoy our little trip down the street that is the good, the bad and the ugly of 1963.

Why 1963? When I was writing about putting my elbows up, I, once again, quoted the words of Martin Luther King Jr. This time, words he shared from his jail cell in Birmingham in April 1963. It made me stop and reminisce and that led to a story waiting to be written.

In 1963, the Toronto Maple Leafs won the Stanley Cup, defeating the Detroit Red Wings in the finals, marking their 11th overall championship and the first time they finished first overall in the league since 1948. Yes, this is true, and they won again in 1967. It was a good time for Leaf fans, and as my family gathered and turned on the TV for Hockey Night in Canada, which came on in the middle of the first period, we anxiously waited to see the score and had our weekly treat: a pop and a chocolate bar. It was exciting and such a happy time.

My transition from a new, mid-century, modern (1957) small Catholic school that didn't have a library, gymnasium, or home economics room to the also mid-century, modern gigantic Royal York Collegiate Institute (1953) with about 1500 students and every new educational facility and advantage to be had, was easy at least in Grades 9 and 10. I was elected class president both years, and I loved school. Oh yes, the love affair died in later years: the first time a boy made a cow mooing sound when I answered a question, a mean girl false rumour that mentioned me, and when I realized that word I had never heard before, "browner," was meant for me. I couldn't imagine that people I hardly knew and had never interacted with could be this way. These were troubling new happenings, but I was okay. I had friends, a loving home, and enough confidence and fancy-free enthusiasm for life to venture outside the school setting.

When I was 14, we went to Yorkville on weekends to stroll, listen to folk singers, and dance in the tiny coffee houses, home by 11. When I was 14, I started visiting my wonderful cousins (all 14 of them) in Marmora and fell in love with small-town life. The boys at the dances every weekend were fun, too. When I was 14, I went with my parents for three days to Quyon, the town in Quebec where my dad was born, and I had my first amazing summer romance. When I was 14, I could do the mashed potato, the pony, the shimmy and every new dance that came along, as well as the ones I learned years before while watching American Bandstand with my brother: the stoll and rock and roll. I also danced the one my parents taught me: the jitterbug. When I was 14, Canada elected a new prime minister, Lester Pearson, who campaigned on creating a new Canadian flag, reforming health care, and creating what would become the Canada Pension Plan. The population of our wonderful young country was 18,896,000. Overall, as I look back, I'd have to say being 14 was quite wonderful in most ways except …

When I was 14 the librarian at Royal York recommended a book for me to read. It was called *Black Like Me*. First published in 1961, it is a nonfiction book by journalist John Howard Griffin recounting his journey in the Deep South of the United States. I cried and I was so sad but I was also appalled. How could this be happening in the modern 60s? I became painfully intellectually aware of the real world. This was not happening in Canada or was it? I was worried.

On Aug. 28, 1963, a quarter of a million people rallied in Washington, D.C., for the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom to demand an end to segregation, fair wages and economic justice, voting rights, education, and long overdue civil rights protections. I watched on T.V. I listened to Martin Luther King's speech, "I Have a Dream." I was so idealistic and also optimistic. I thought the dream would come true.

On Sept. 15, less than three weeks after the March on Washington, a dynamite bomb planted by Klansmen exploded inside 16th Street Baptist Church, killing four young girls: Addie Mae Collins (14), Denise McNair (11), Carole Robertson (14), and Cynthia Wesley (14). More than 20 others were injured in the attack, timed to occur during a "Youth Day". Three of the girls were my age, 14. I grew up that summer. And it got worse.

I was sitting in a Grade 10 art class in November. We were learning to draw bubble letters. It was the only art class I ever took. I knew my interests well by then and one art class was mandatory. Bubble letters were fun. The principal came over to the announcements to tell us all about the assassination of JFK. I remember watching the funeral on TV, and my heart ached. How could a country that boasted Christian values come to this?

I haven't included the War in Vietnam because I didn't understand it when I was 14. Now if this story was 1968 ... Suffice to say, I grew up in the year 1963 and although I had to learn to compartmentalize the happenings of my world, my world changed and I could not go back to my teenage Baby Boomer bliss.

Today, as I continue to put my elbows up for Canada, it is no surprise that the words of Martin Luther King flood back. It was a shock but not a surprise that King was assassinated in 1968. It was also a shock but not a surprise that Bobby Kennedy was assassinated in 1968. I was an adult by then and understood evil in my world.

The 60s were the best of the Baby Boomer years and the worst. To all of you who joined me in this revisit to 1963, both through your personal history and through this story: wow, we experienced so much.

A concluding note about the book: *Black Like Me* has been banned in the States. If you haven't read it, it is worth reading. I will never forget the good and the bad of 1963, and I hope you will also always remember. Reminiscing has been challenging yet enjoyable, and it has renewed my sense of the importance of Elbows Up Canada.

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Ghosts

WE ALL appreciate ghost stories.

That feeling of being tied to something that came before us. A small alert that makes our spines tingle and goosebumps fizzle on our flesh.

EMILY STONEHOUSE
County Life Editor

The Hollywood version of ghosts is very *Casper*-eque. Hollow and wispy figures who moan and groan with the aches and pains of decomposition.

And many have claimed to have seen these ghosts before; out of the corners of their eyes; a flit in the stillness, a crease in the cracks.

And who am I to deny these stories? I myself question the complexities of the soul leaving the body at the end of an era. Where can it go? Why wouldn't it stay in a place it loves while the shell of the body moves on?

But I think there are other forms of ghosts, as well. Ones that are right in front of us, if we are looking hard enough.

As I type this, I sit next to a blanket that was embroidered by my great grandmother; the colouring of the thread still vibrant yellows, pinks, and greens, even with decades of age piled on top.

Looking at these vivid colours, my brain cannot compute them existing 100 years ago; the only images I have seen of my great grandmother are in black and white. It takes an added level of wherewithal to recall that colour existed back then.

If an alien came to earth and saw these pictures, they would have to believe that that's what the world looked like, way back when. "No, there was colour then, as well," we could say.

"How do you know? You can't see it?" they would wonder (as I assume we can communicate).

"You just have to believe us," we'd note. "We know it to be true."

Did my great grandmother have a favourite colour? Was it the yellows, the pinks, the greens she pinpricked her fingers on to finish this blanket?

I think she would find joy in the idea that the blanket sits in my office; a building that was alive and buzzing the same time she was.

And through these walls, different ghosts tell stories.

They may not be hollow and wispy figures (though some insist they have seen a few characters wandering the halls on dark nights), but they live on through our words.

On a very regular basis, I find myself drawn to our archives room; a neat and tidy space with stacks and stacks and stacks and stacks of newspapers; all chronologically and meticulously ordered. The voices who came before me. On occasion, I find a ghost of myself; letters and words arranged by a 16-year-old Emily, who sat in this same office with the same view, and dove into the world of local newspapers.

Her words are thin and stringy; still finding her footing and balance not only in her writing, but in the world. That ghost has so much and so little in common with the editor who types these words now.

Ghosts come in many forms. Memories of days gone by, words bled into ink, stitches crossed and woven. The days of our past, carving a place in our present. Sometimes haunting, sometimes welcome, more often than not, unnoticed.

Our vibrant yellows, pinks, and greens, fading with each day, writing our very own ghost stories.

To be passed down, to be remembered, to be experienced.

Even if we can't see it.

We know it to be true.

Top 10 Alternate names for groups of animals

WE'RE ALL familiar with terms describing groups of animals. But few of us know about the alternate terms that can also be used. With that in mind, here are the top 10:

1. Original term: A murder of crows.

Alternate term: An attempted murder – when crows try to get together but can't due to conflicting schedules.

STEVE GALEA
Humour Columnist

2. Original term: Pride of lions:

Alternate term: A shame of lions – when lions are reminded of their behaviour after a weekend of drinking and poor behaviour.

3. Original term: Colony of ants.

Alternate term: A republic of ants: When a group of ants achieves independence from the motherland.

4. Original term: A pod of dolphins.

Alternate term: An iPod of dolphins: When dolphins spend too much time on electronic devices.

5. Original term: School of fish.

Alternate term: A university of fish: When a group of fish decides to get a higher education and incur student loan debt.

6. Original term: A kettle of hawks.

Alternate term: A steam of hawks: When a kettle of hawks is boiling mad.

7. Original term: A parliament of owls.

Alternate term: A senate of owls: A group of owls in a democratic republic.

8. Original term: A den of snakes.

Alternate term: A living room of snakes: When snakes decide its time to go upstairs, lie on the couch, and watch TV.

9. Original term: A team of horses.

Alternate term: A non-conformist of horses: horses that have decided not to go with the mainstream.

10: Original term: A conspiracy of lemurs.

Alternate term: A debunking of lemurs: When lemur conspiracy theories have been fact-checked.

Trickles

Water burbling over rocks,
springing from this forest stream, that zig-zags like a scar through the Snow,
I stand, listening, at the top of the slope, to trickles of spring,
surrounded by stalks of tall grasses, that have survived winter too, their spines, bent, but not broken,
patches of grass, peering through glass, ice blisters bursting beneath my feet,
as I listen to the crackle of breaking ice,
traces of it lacing the trail, as I inhale the sound of the newborn stream,
pure and cool as it trickles its way down,
slowing my Breath as I listen to it flow, a salve for my body, a tonic for my cloistered Soul,
as I feel this spring zephyr wind its way through the pines, sloping down towards the stream,
surrounded by rocks and their caps of moss, wondering where this stream begins and where it will end,
as it meanders its way through the Snow, over the roots of trees, sleeping underground,
their awakening, coming, as the earth thaws, Sun melting Snow,
reviving the stalks of tall grasses and reeds, that will stand straight again,
and the yellowed patches of flattened grass that crave Rain, the cycle repeating itself, year after year,
as I peer down at a patch of grass, still sealed in ice, its skin, so thin and brittle,
I barely step on it and it crumbles to bits, releasing grass, so it can breathe Air again,
the world of the trail, a wonder, as every day brings something new,
the gurgle of the stream, a robin landing on the bare branches of a tree, joined by other robins,
their flashes of red, adorning the tree, like autumn leaves, the seasons bleeding into one another,
as Rain lashes Snow,
and birds return to the branches they remember and know, a robin fluttering down from tree to ground,
to peck at a patch of grass, another robin drinking from a puddle of melted ice,
the trail welcoming them back, as their chirps trickle through Air,
and I listen with wide open ears to the sounds of spring, awakening,
the water murmuring down below, as the stream leaves a black scar in the Snow,
birds piercing layers of Air with the chorus of their song, returning to the places where they know they belong,
the tree branches holding space for them while they build their nests, twig by twig, 'till they're done,
my own feeling of belonging, deepening each spring, as I walk through puddles along the trail,
peering down at the reflections of sepia trees, glancing up at wisps of clouds, shaped like feathers and wings,
Wind trailing me, propelling me to keep walking and breathing,
trickles of my Breath, sharing Air with the robins and starlings and chickadees,
as I listen to them serenading the trail with their song.

Sylvie Kalenda

Hurry hard

Boshkung Brewing held their first "Keg Curling" event on March 24 in Minden. The fun-filled event used beer kegs on the fresh ice instead of traditional curling rocks. Mathew Renda, the owner of Boshkung, hopes to offer the event on a regular basis moving forward. /photos submitted

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JOB FAIR DAY 2025

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16
8:30 AM TO 2:30 PM

Haliburton Highlands
Secondary School Gym

HHSS RED HAWKS
Haliburton County Home Builders Association
www.hchba.ca

THE HALIBURTON COUNTY HOME BUILDERS' ASSOCIATION IN PARTNERSHIP WITH HHSS IS WORKING TO ADDRESS THE EMPLOYEE SHORTAGE IN THE COUNTY!

Job Fair Day will be an event where businesses of all different sizes and industries from across Haliburton County will be on display in the high school gym for students to meet and learn what is available *close to home.* This is a perfect place for students to bring their resumes and talk to employers about co-op jobs, volunteer positions, summer jobs or post secondary employment.

This is not a 'trade' only Job Fair. We would like to include as many businesses as possible from across Haliburton County. We will also have outdoor space available for any participants who would like to bring larger tools or equipment. The more interactive your space is, the more engaged the students will be.

Questions?
Reach out to **Aggie Tose by phone at 705-457-6901 or by email info@hchba.ca**

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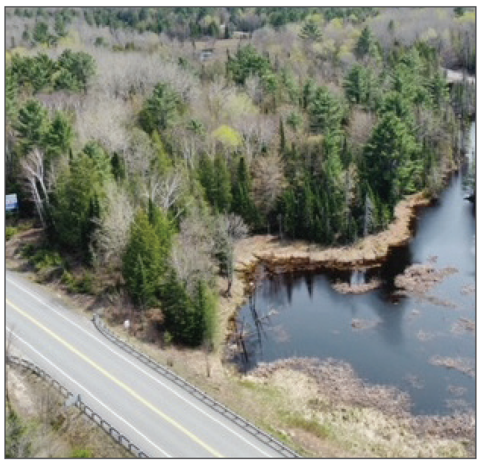

Beautiful building lot located on the corner of Hwy#1118 and bobcaygeon Road - 5.93 acres - 406 ft on hwy - 787 on Twp Rd - picturesque pond with nice building locations - close to 1000's acres of crown land - lot is off grid

Ted Vasey
Sales Representative
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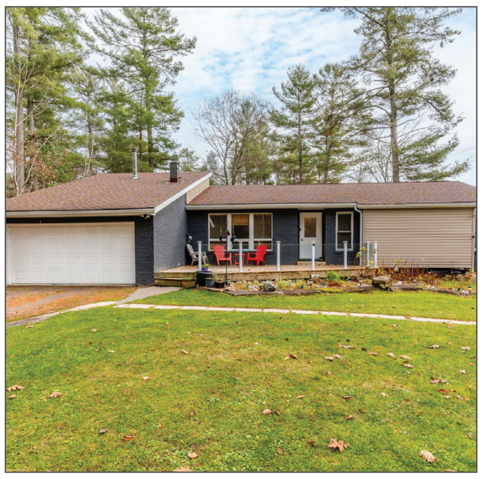
SPACIOUS WATERFRONT HOME $699,900



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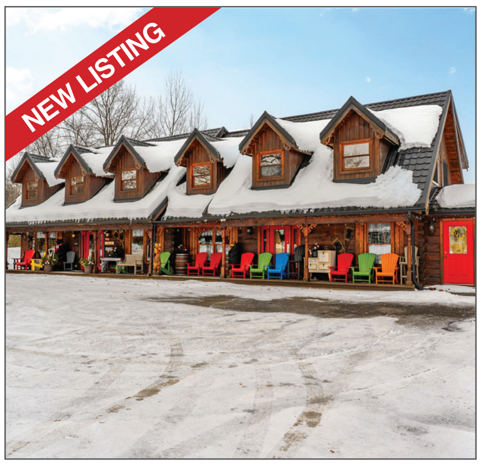

Truly a road trip destination! This 3,762 sq. ft. building sits on a 1.2 acre lot w/ easy access off Hwy. 118 in West Guilford. Zoned CH-H with many potential uses, including a back patio fit for dining. Upstairs is a large open area with a separate 2-bdrm. living quarter. The 1,758 sq. ft. basement is perfect for storage, receiving, or convert it to another commercial space. So many possibilities!

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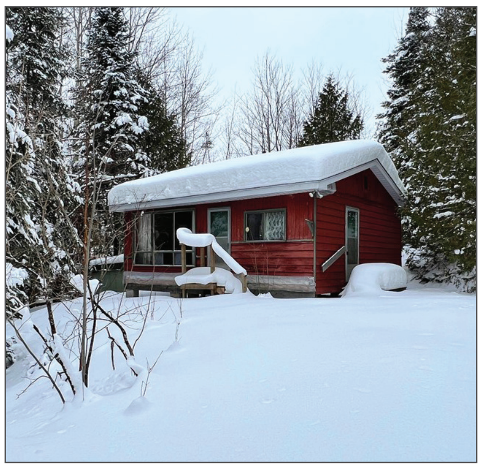

- Across from pub. acc. to Clement Lk
- 2 bed/1 bath, 3 season cottage
- Cozy interior; end of rd privacy
- Open concept; lrg main window
- Living rm walk-out to front yard
- Mixed topo; well treed; shed
- Accessed via municipal yr-rnd rd
- Being sold under Power of Sale
- Being sold As-Is Where-Is

Rick Forget
Broker
705-457-0580
haliburtonhighlands-remax.ca

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SALES REPRESENTATIVE

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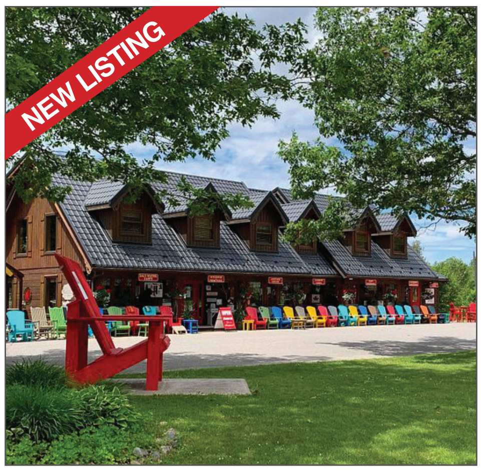

3,762 sq. ft. retail location! Just a 12 minute drive to Haliburton, off Hwy. 118. Impressive log/frame building has been the home of Cottage Country Log Cabin for 20+ years. 1,955 sq. ft. main floor packed w/ hand-chosen giftware. Upper area w/ lg rec room, + spacious 2-bdrm. living quarters, for on-premises accommodations. Additional 1,758 sq. ft. basement w/ office space, storage/stock area w/ easy access. 1.2 ac lot w/ expansion possibilities & versatile zoning providing for multiple business opportunities.

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Sales Representative
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debra.lambe@gmail.com

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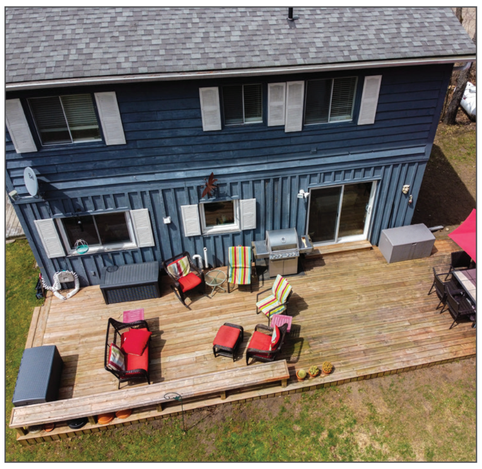

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Nature in your backyard

County Life welcomes photo submissions depicting life in the Highlands. Email emily@ haliburtonpress.com. Please ensure images are high resolution - 200 dpi, 10 inches at its longest edge.

Deer by Tammy Nash

Common Grackle by Jill Moulton

© Jill Moulton Photography
River otter by Jill Moulton

Lonely goose by Randy Moratz

Legion Events

Branch 441 Kinmount

Monday: Bid euchre 1 p.m., Cornhole 7 p.m. (upstairs) Ladies Darts 7:30 p.m. (downstairs)

Tuesday: Closed

Wednesday: Mixed darts 7:30 p.m.

Thursday: General meeting (3rd week) Members only 7:30 p.m.

Friday: Chair yoga 10 a.m. Bingo, doors open at 5 p.m. with a weekly supper special. Canteen opens at 4 p.m.

Saturday: Meat draw 5 p.m. Canteen opens at 3 p.m.

Sunday: Ladies Auxiliary meeting (members only) 3rd week at 2 p.m.

Please follow our Facebook page - Royal Canadian Legion Branch 441 Kinmount. Do you need a space to host an event: book our hall today, call 705-488-3462 and leave a message or call Teresa at 705-928-7105.

Branch 129 Haliburton

Mondays: Bridge 1 p.m. Schofield Rm. Youth darts 6:30 to 8 p.m. Clubroom 10 to 18 years of age. All are welcome, no experience necessary

Tuesdays: League darts 7 p.m.

Wednesdays: Bid Euchre 1 p.m. start – Main Hall. Bingo doors open at 6 p.m. Bingo starts at 7 p.m. First Wed of each month - $1000 jackpot, rest will be a $500 jackpot. Follow Facebook.com/Branch129 Bingo for the most up-to-date information

Thursdays: General Meeting third Thursday of the month, 6:30 p.m. All members urged to attend.

Ladies Auxiliary last Thursday of the month at 1 p.m.

Fridays: Five meat draw, five prizes each draw, first draw 4:30 p.m., last draw 6:30 p.m. Tickets $2 per draw. Paul Sisson, MC. Friday fun darts from 4:30 p.m. and onwards. 50/50 Draw 5:40 p.m.

Whether you're planning a function for 10 or 200, call Cheryl Waller at 905-447-7741, email haliburtonlegionrentals@gmail.com or visit haliburtonlegion.com. Everyone is welcome!

Club room hours: Mon. 3 to 6 p.m., Tues. 3 to 9 p.m., Wed/Thurs. 3 to 6 p.m. Fri. 3 to 7 p.m.

Branch 636 Minden

Lunch - Monday to Friday

Monday: Rug Hookers every second week. Bid Euchre 1 to 3 p.m.

Tuesday: Food 5 p.m. Canoe FM Bingo 6 p.m.

Thursday: Cribbage 1 to 3 p.m., Darts 7 to 9 p.m. and Euchre 7 to 9 p.m.

Every other Friday: Karaoke 8 to 11 p.m.

Friday Fish & Chips, Wings. Lunch 11a.m. to 2 p.m. and Dinner 4 to 7 p.m.

Saturday All Day Breakfast 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with three Meat draws at 11 a.m.

Call ahead any day for take-out: 705-286-4541. Schedules are subject to change without notice. Check our Facebook page Minden Legion Branch 636 for more info.

Branch 624 Wilberforce

Hours - Sunday: Special Events Only, Monday: 7 to 10 p.m., Tuesday: Closed, Wednesday: 2 to 6 p.m., Thursday: 7 to 10 p.m., Friday: 2 to 11 p.m., Saturday: 2 to 9 p.m.

Mondays - March 31, April 7, 14, 21, 28 – Darts, $5/player, 7 p.m.

Wednesdays - March 26, April 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 Darts, $4/player, 2 p.m.

Thursdays -March 27, April 3, 10, 17, 24 Cornhole, $5/player, 7 p.m.

Fridays -April 4, 18, Fish & Chips, 5 to 8 p.m. $15 - 1 piece, $20 - 2 pieces

March 27 - HHHS Social Rec 10 a.m.

March 28 - Wings and Jam Session, $15/lb, 5 to 8 p.m.

March 28 - Seniors 55+ Lunch, $17, 12 pm

Saturdays - March 29, April 5, 12, 19, 26 Meat Draw, 3 p.m.

Sunday - April 13, LA Breakfast, 9 to 11 a.m., $10

April 11, 25 - Wings and Jam Session, $15/lb, 5 to 8 p.m.

April 11, 25 - Seniors 55+ Lunch, $17, noon

April 26 - Soc Hop Dance, 1950's and 1960's music, Spot Dance Prizes, Best Dressed Prizes, Hot Dogs Served, $5 at the door. 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Call the Legion for more info 705-448-2221

Nature in your backyard

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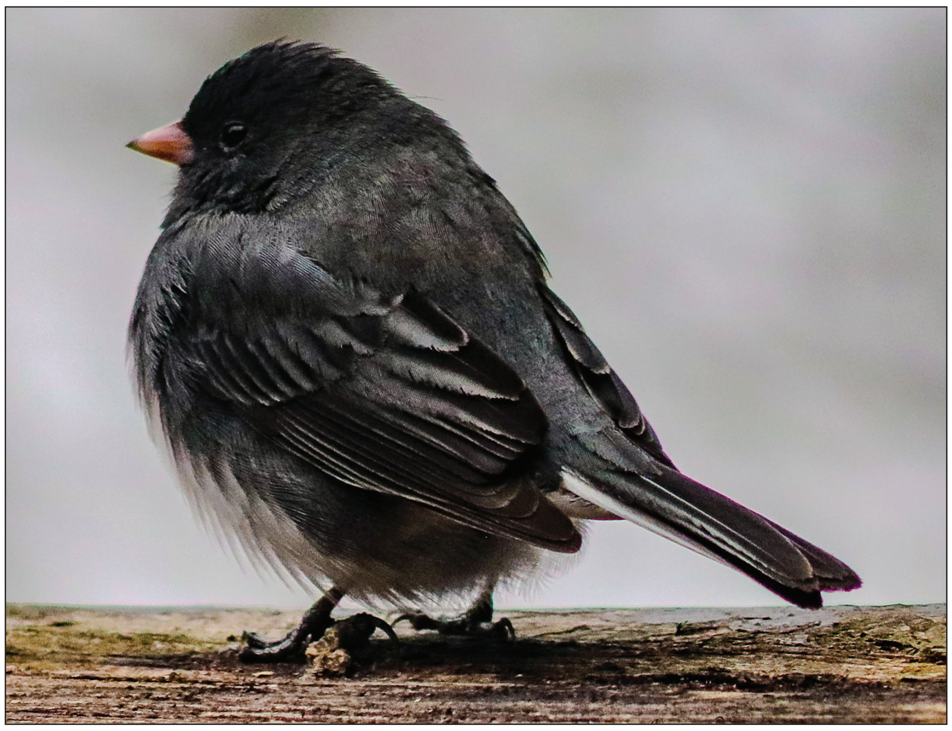
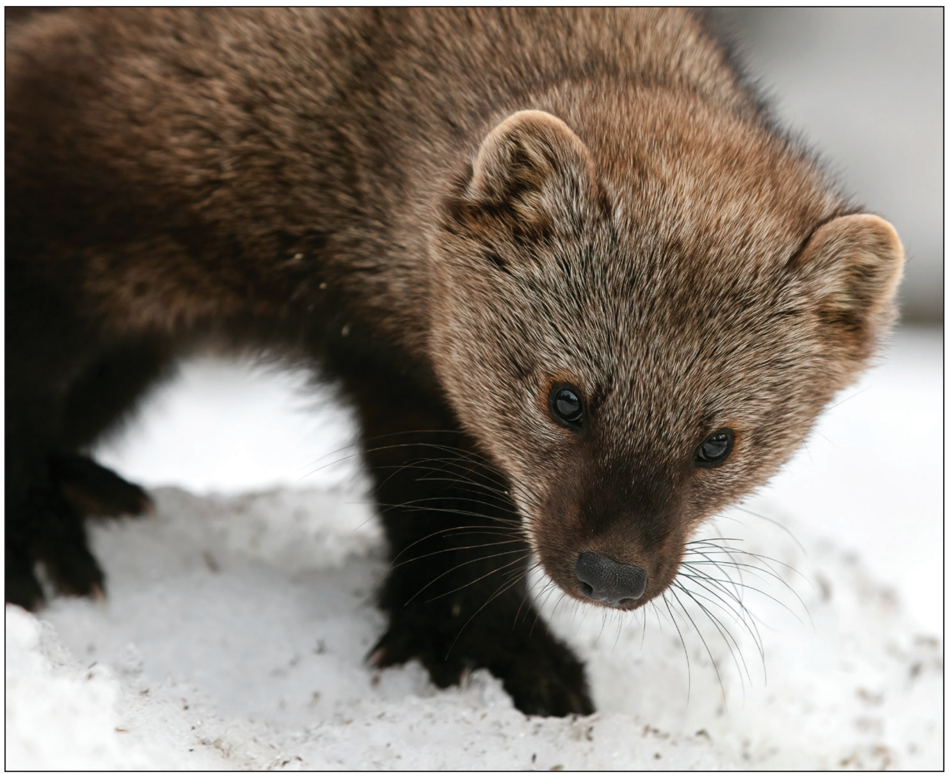


Dark Eyed Junco by Jill Moulton



Fisher by Tammy Nash

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EVENT POSTPONED

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Donations Support After School Programs

Hosted At : Lakeside Church
9 Park St, Haliburton
SATURDAY, APRIL 5TH
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5:45-6:45 SITTING #2

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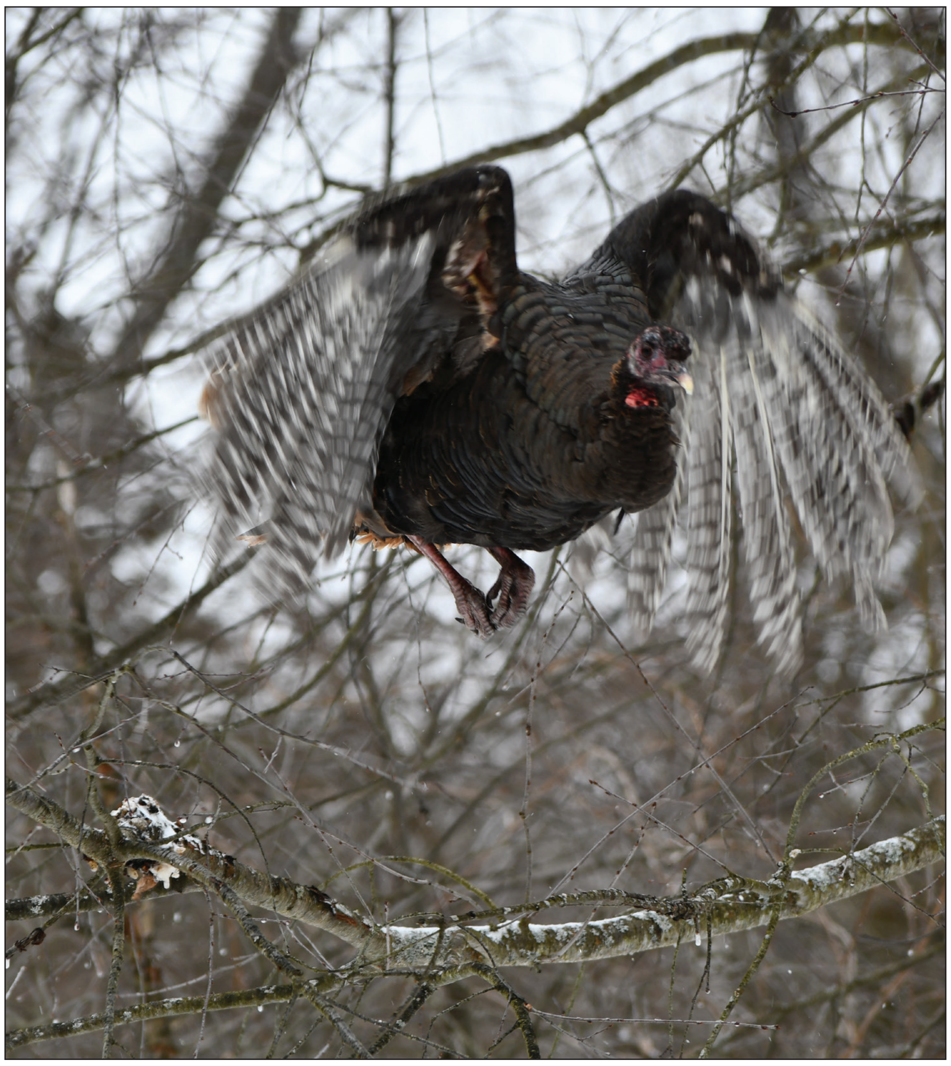

Turkey lift off by Randy Moratz

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Youth Coordinator Cambridge Street United Church in Lindsay, ON, is seeking a Youth Coordinator and play a vital role in fostering a welcoming and inclusive environment for the young members of our congregation, guiding them in their spiritual journey, and organizing engaging activities that promote growth and community. The position begins with an average of 20 hours a week for a 3-month period with an initial focus of continuing to develop a core group of children on Sunday mornings in a welcoming, safe, and faith-based environment based on the teachings of Jesus. The plan is to also explore programming for events over the summer months. A position description can be found on our website www.theunitedchurch.com. Application deadline April 15, 2025.

400 EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Hyland Ice Supply is now accepting applications for the 2025 summer season for Drivers Helpers, Production Staff and Drivers (D, DZ, G). Interviews will be held early April. Please contact us via e-mail or telephone **info@hylandice.com 1-705-448-2973** Attention Carol

---

Private campground in the Minden/Haliburton area requires a reliable **SUMMER MAINTENANCE PERSON** from May 10 to October 13, 2025. $20/hour. Duties Include: general maintenance; cleaning park grounds, rec hall, washrooms; operating small grass cutting equipment; ability to lift over 40 lbs; assisting with various small projects as assigned. Approximately 5 hours a day. Morning start time. Willing to work weekends. Must possess a valid "G" driver's license. A good driving record is required. Please submit your resume to **neca.bod@gmail.com.**

GET IT
online
www.haliburtonecho.ca
www.mindentimes.ca

Community Events

Send your event listing to classifieds@haliburtonpress.com

Lenten Lunches
When: Wednesdays at noon
Where: April 2 – Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church
April 9 – Minden Bible Church
Service at noon followed by Soup Lunch. By Donation.

Youth Unlimited Gym Night
When: Apr 4 - Sports and 9 Square 6:30 to 9 p.m.
Where: Haliburton Highlands Secondary School
For Grades 6-12. For more info contact haliburton@youthunlimitedkaw.com.

The Loop Troupe Little Theatre presents Riches and Ransom Dinner Theatre
When: Saturday, April 5. Doors open at 5:30 p.m., Dinner at 6 p.m.
Where: Lloyd Watson Centre, Wilberforce
Who Kidnapped Miss Purscilla Bing? Immerse yourself in the drama, deception and dilemmas while you dine with the residents of Old Oaks Retirement Home as they celebrate the home's 50th anniversary. Tickets $35 per person. Includes a Roast Beef Dinner served by the Legion Ladies Auxiliary Branch #624. Tickets only available in advance until March 29th at Agnews General Store in Wilberforce. For more info contact marybarker@bell.net 705-448-2290 or 613-334-1953.

Friends of The Haliburton County Public Library Café
When: Mon., April 7, 1 p.m.
Where: Minden Hills Branch of The Haliburton Public Library, 176 Bobcaygeon Rd. Minden
Hosting Douglas Tindal, author of "Tales from Wine on the Porch" at our spring café. Learn more about his recent book and about his life in Haliburton County. Signed copies of Douglas's book will be available for $15 of which $3 will be donated to The Friends. Light refreshments will be served. Admission is by donation. Contact Penni Chalk 705-286-3276.

Loop Troupe Little Theatre Group Variety Show
When: Evening of May 3
Where: Wilberforce in the Lloyd Watson Community Centre
Looking for Talent, Unique Skills, Bring your Party Tricks! Poets, Acrobats, Puppeteers, Magicians, Mime, Jester, Clown, Wrestlers, Contortionists, Marshal Arts, Singers, Dancers, Comedians, Fiddlers, Actors, Jokesters, Flutist, Guitar Players, Piano Players. For details and to let us know you might be interested email kcsriley@gmail.com. Proceeds from admission to improve the acoustics in the Lloyd Watson Community Centre.

Minden Curling Club Spring Dance
When: May 10, 4:30 to 10 p.m.
Where: Minden Curling Club
Roast Beef Dinner (Vegetarian available) Dinner and Dance $45 pp. Music only from 6:30 p.m. $25 pp. Music by The Recycled Teenagers Lloyd and Susanne Taylor. Tickets available at Let's Get Local & Molly's Market and Bakery or call Wynn Taylor 705-286-3286, Lynda Litwin 705-487-8511, Bob Barron 705-731-7730

Recurring events

Friends of the Haliburton County Public Library New Book Nook Hours
When: 1st, 3rd Tuesday of the month - 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Where: Minden Hills Branch, 176 Bobcaygeon Rd. Minden
Choose from a variety of gently read books: thrillers, mysteries, romance, biographies, children and youth selections, Canadian authors, fiction, science fiction/fantasy, sports, spiritual and other non-fiction books. Bring a reusable bag. Payment is by cash donation. All money raised supports library enhancements and programmes for all libraries in the county.

TOPS: Take Off Pounds Sensibly
When: Monday mornings 9:30 to 11 a.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion Branch 129, upper level
Admission: Yearly membership of $59
A non-profit/commercial network of weight-loss support groups, offers programs for healthy living and weight management.

Bridge for Seniors
When: Mondays at 1 p.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion - Schofield Room
All welcome.

Haliburton Legion Walking Group
When: Mondays at 9 to 10 a.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion - Remembrance Hall
A safe walking environment. Lead by an Occupational therapist.

Free Balanced Fitness and Active Social Senior Classes
When: Every second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 10 to 11 a.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion - Remembrance Hall
All seniors are welcome. Group led by Registered Recreation Therapist

Bid Euchre
When: Wednesdays at 1 p.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion - Remembrance Hall
All welcome!

Seniors Chair Exercises
When: Thursdays at 1 p.m.
Where: St. George's Anglican Church,
617 Mountain Street
Please join us for safe and gentle exercises for seniors to help with balance, strength and flexibility. Free to join.

Cards/Euchre/Cribbage
When: Thursdays at 2:30 p.m.
Where: St. George's Church
617 Mountain Street

Lakeside Church Service
When: Sunday at 9 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.
Where: 9 Park Street, Haliburton.
Whoever you are, wherever you've been, you are welcome here.

Weekly Meat Rolls
When: Every Saturday, 3 p.m.
Where: Coboconk Legion, Hwy 48 and 35
Join us for our weekly meat draw. Five spins for $10. First four rounds are for highest and lowest score with two winners per round. Last round is for a prepare-it-yourself dinner for two. Additional spins for this round are available for $2 each. Call 705-454-8127 or email info@coboconklegion.ca for more information.

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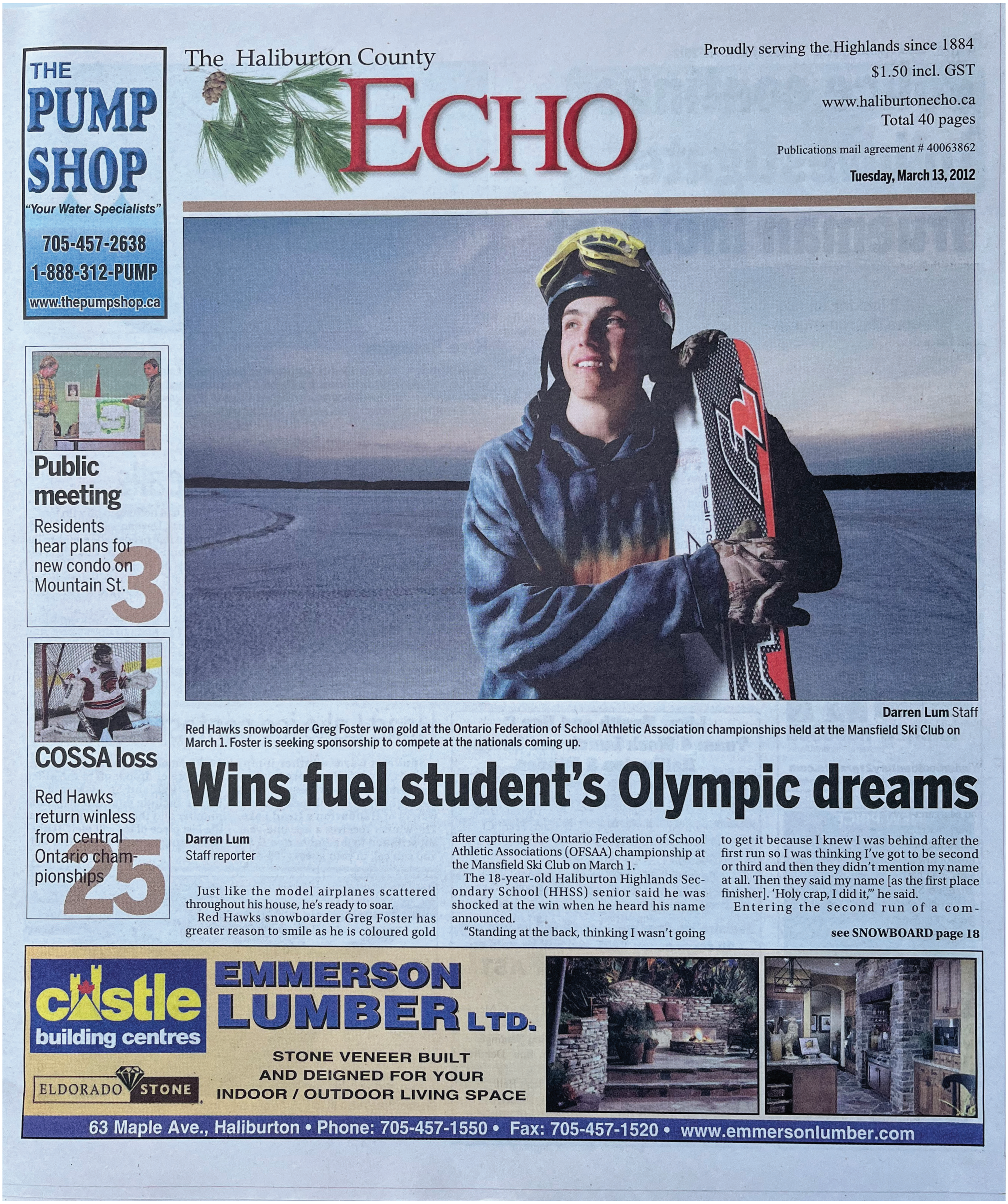

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Public meeting

Residents hear plans for new condo on Mountain St.

3

COSSA loss

Red Hawks return winless from central Ontario championships

25

Darren Lum Staff

Red Hawks snowboarder Greg Foster won gold at the Ontario Federation of School Athletic Association championships held at the Mansfield Ski Club on March 1. Foster is seeking sponsorship to compete at the nationals coming up.

Wins fuel student's Olympic dreams

Darren Lum
Staff reporter

Just like the model airplanes scattered throughout his house, he's ready to soar.

Red Hawks snowboarder Greg Foster has greater reason to smile as he is coloured gold after capturing the Ontario Federation of School Athletic Associations (OFSAA) championship at the Mansfield Ski Club on March 1.

The 18-year-old Haliburton Highlands Secondary School (HHSS) senior said he was shocked at the win when he heard his name announced.

"Standing at the back, thinking I wasn't going to get it because I knew I was behind after the first run so I was thinking I've got to be second or third and then they didn't mention my name at all. Then they said my name [as the first place finisher]. 'Holy crap, I did it,'" he said.

Entering the second run of a com-

see SNOWBOARD page 18

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